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JAN 28 2003  
Docket No.: C37584/130070

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
J. SHAFFER et al. )  
Serial No.: 10/043,056 ) Examiner: Chester T. Barry  
Filed: January 8, 2002 ) Group Art Unit: 1724

JAN 29 2003

For: **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR BIOLOGICAL  
TREATMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINANTS  
AND WASTE**

TC 1724

January 22, 2003

### RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION INCLUDING AMENDMENT

Box Non Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed October 24, 2002, which set a three-month shortened statutory period for response. Accordingly, this response is filed timely upon mailing with an executed certificate of mailing on or before January 24, 2003. 37 CFR § 1.8.

It is not believed that this response occasions any fee, but should there be any fee, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 02-4467. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Please amend the application as follows:

### IN THE SPECIFICATION

As requested by the Examiner at page 4 of the Office action, to address and correct various objections to the specification as filed, editorial and grammatical